MARVEL KNIGHTS®

14

DIXON • LILLY • NELSON

MARVEL KNIGHTS®

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STAN LEE PRESENTS:

EVERYTHING DIES

YOU HAVE SOMETHING FOR ME?

YOU GONNA BE *STUPID* LIKE YOUR FRIEND THERE?

WAR JOURNAL ENTRY
BROWN HEROIN'S ON THE RISE IN THE CITY. I'M WORKING MY WAY UP THE CHAIN TO THE BIG MOVERS.

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THIS MOOK IS STRICTLY LOWER MANAGEMENT.

YOU'RE THE *PUNISHER!* I TELL YOU AN' YOU *CAP* ME LIKE RICKY.

I *DON'* TELL YOU AND YOU CAP ME.

SO I NEED SOME *INSURANCE,* RIGHT?

I'M NOT IN THE INSURANCE BUSINESS.

BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM

LOOKS LIKE I START OVER.

SHHFTFT

I'M NOT ALONE HERE.

TUNNELS UNDER MANHATTAN ARE HOME TO A SHADOW POPULATION.

OUT OF THE LIGHT AND HIDDEN FROM THE LAW.

HOMELESS. DERELICTS. MOPES AND CRACKHEADS.

OR SOMETHING ELSE.

SOMETHING THAT WAS NEVER HUMAN.

HURT ME NO! I DINNIT SEE! SEE NO!

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WHAT ARE YOU?
WHO ARE YOU?
VERMIN ME AM!
ONLY VERMIN!
ME NO SEE! ME NO TALK.
SEE NO ONE! TALK NO ONE! KILL ME NO!
YOU KILL VERMIN ME?
I'M THINKING.

"A... GUY LIKE YOU COULD BE *USEFUL*, VERMIN."

THE ENTIRE *BUILDING* IS SHAKING!

SOME KIND OF — UH— *EARTHQUAKE?*

AN ARMY OF *KUNG-FU* MOTHERS AND NOW THIS.

I'D SAY SHANG WAS *RIGHT* ABOUT HIS DADDY—

"THE OLD MAN HAS A PLAN *B*."

RUN, YOU MINDLESS OAF!

OUR DEATHS ARE NOT A *PART* OF THE MASTER'S DESIGNS.

MERCIFUL ONE, YOUR HAND REACHES EVEN *HERE* TO SMITE YOUR FOES.

AS I SEE, MR. LOO.

I REGRET THIS OVERT SHOW OF FORCE.

I PREFER TO ACT IN SECRECY.

IMPATIENCE IS A HUMAN FAULT I SELDOM INDULGE IN.

MY DESIRE TO SEE MY SON, SHANG-CHI, SLAIN HAS BEEN TOO OFTEN THWARTED.

I ONLY WISH TO BE CERTAIN OF HIS DEMISE, MR. LOO.

MR. LOO?

WELL, HIS SILENCE IS ONLY CONFIRMATION.

DESTRUCTION IS TOTAL. NOTHING THAT *LIVES* ESCAPES SPECTOR TOWER.

NOW I MAY PROCEED WITH MY GRANDER SCHEMES...

THE CRESCENT— MY COPTER—

YOU CAN'T PILOT THAT THING, SPECTOR. YOU CAN BARELY *WALK.*

NO TIME FOR *DEBATE,* DAREDEVIL.

THE TOWER IS BUILT ON A CENTER SPIRE, BUILT TO COLLAPSE IN ON ITSELF IN CASE OF AN EARTHQUAKE.

IN A *HEARTBEAT* THIS WHOLE FLOOR BECOMES AN EXPRESS ELEVATOR HEADING DOWN.

BUT ALL OF THESE UNCONSCIOUS DACOITS—

I DIDN'T INVITE 'EM, DD!

SHOW ME THE WAY *OUT*, SPECTOR!

YOU *COMIN'*, SHANG, M'MAN?

I FOLLOW, LUKE CAGE.

"AND I SHALL NOT STOP UNTIL I STAND FACE-TO-FACE WITH MY FATHER."

SHANG-CHI...

THIS IS AN AUTOMATED SECURITY BUILDING.

NO SPECTOR INC. EMPLOYEES OR TENANTS ARE IN THE BUILDING.

GREAT NEWS.

IF WE *DIE*, IT'S WITH A CLEAR CONSCIENCE.

A FITTING DEATH FOR ONE WHO CALLS HIMSELF *"HERO."*

YEAH, WELL, I MIGHTA LIKED BEIN' AN *OLD* HERO.

NO...

RRRRR

I DON'T LIKE THE *SOUND* OF THAT.

THE TREMOR STRESSED THE BUILDING.

THE ROOF HATCH IS *JAMMED.*

"WE'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE."

HE— HE'S *DEAD!*

TYRONE!

YOU SAVED OUR LIVES, TYRONE.

IT'S OKAY, TANDY. IT'S BEEF STEW.

NASTY STUFF SPRAYED ON ME WHEN THE MICROWAVE BLEW.

YEAH. ROBO-NICK FREAKED WHEN I NUKED SOME POPCORN, NATASHA.

AND THIS TIME YOU SHORTED HIM OUT.

THE MICROWAVE DISRUPTED HIS CONTROL PROGRAM.

WE THREW EVERYTHING WE HAD AGAINST THIS L.M.D.*

AND YOU DESTROYED IT WITH A HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE.

WHAT NOW?

* LIFE MODEL DECOY

YOU HAVE TO GO TO S.H.I.E.L.D. AND TELL THEM ABOUT THIS.

UNLESS THEY ALREADY KNOW.

HUH?

THE WORLD OF ESPIONAGE IS MADE FROM SHADOWS.

NOTHING IS CERTAIN. ESPECIALLY ALLEGIANCES.

"FRIENDS AND ENEMIES ARE SOMETIMES ONE AND THE *SAME.*"

IF THE *DOOR'S* LOCKED WE TAKE THE *WINDOW.*

GET THAT CROISSANT *REVVED,* SPECTOR.

WE'RE *LEAVIN'* THIS CRIB!

HANG TIGHT.

THIS IS GOING TO BE A *JACKRABBIT* TAKE-OFF.

PUNCH IT, BABY! *PUNCH* IT!

WE'RE *JUST* GOING TO... CLEAR.

"JUST PRAY THE *DEBRIS* DOESN'T CHOKE THE TURBOS."

WE'RE *THROUGH*, SPECTOR!

AND ALL OUR TROUBLES ARE *BEHIND* US!

I NEVER *DID* LIKE THE IDEA OF HAVING A HEADQUARTERS.

THAT'S *COLD*, DD. THE MAN LOST HIS *PAD*, HIS BUSINESS.

HE'S *ALIVE*. HE CAN REBUILD.

IN THE END ALL THAT MATTERS IS SURVIVAL.

WELL, I'D LIKE TO HEAR SPECTOR'S OPINION..

...WHEN HE WAKES *UP*.

ANYONE HERE KNOW HOW TO *FLY* THIS RIDE?

I CAN HANDLE IT, LUKE.

YOU SURE, *DP*? YOU'RE NOT EVEN LOOKING WHERE YOU'RE GOIN'.

HAVE A LITTLE *FAITH*, CAGE.

ME?

"ONLY THING I HAVE FAITH IN IS--

"--JUST WHEN YOU THINK THINGS CAN'T GET WORSE--

"--THEY DO."

ARE YOU *SURE* ABOUT THIS, NATASHA?

WHAT *SHOULD* WE DO?

SHOULD I WAIT UNTIL *ANOTHER* KILLER ROBOT INVADES MY HOME?

BUT DO I HAVE TO COME ALONG?

YOU'RE THE *KEY* TO THIS, TANDY.

I'M NOT SO *SURE*...

THE LADY HAS A *POINT*, TAND'.

THANKS FOR THE *MORAL* SUPPORT, TYRONE.

I WOULD THINK YOU'D *WANT* ANSWERS, TANDY. FOR *TYRONE'S* SAKE.

I GUESS.

IT'S JUST THAT ALL THIS *SPY* STUFF IS KIND OF SCARY.

SILLY. I'M A SPY. DO I SCARE YOU?

SOMETIMES? YEAH.

I MEAN, THAT NICK FURY WHO WAS VISITING US... HE WAS NEVER THE *REAL* NICK FURY.

RIGHT.

SO, DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S *SCARY?*

THAT'S WHY WE'RE GOING RIGHT TO *S.H.I.E.L.D.* FOR ANSWERS.

HEY, MAN.

CAN YOU HANDLE A COUPLE *VISITORS?*

LUKE... SHANG...

THIS IS MARLENE, MY...

THE *LOVE* OF HIS LIFE.

RIGHT...

HOW YOU *DOING*, SPECTOR?

LOST SOME BLOOD. THEY WANT TO KEEP AN *EYE* ON ME FOR A FEW DAYS.

RARE ARE THE MEN WHO HAVE FACED ZARAN AND LIVED.

I BARELY DID *THAT.*

TAKE MORE THAN *THAT* FREAK TO BRING YOU DOWN. YOU'LL BE UP FIGHTIN' IN *NO* TIME.

THAT I'M NOT *SO SURE* ABOUT.

HUH?

YOU KNOW HOW MUCH THAT BUILDING *COST?*

I'D RATHER FACE A *ROOMFUL* OF ZARANS THAN MY STOCKHOLDERS.

I'M *OUT* OF THIS LITTLE CLUB, FRIENDS.

I HATE TO *SAY* THIS, BUT THIS TEAM IS A *TROUBLE* MAGNET.

I'VE GOT *ENOUGH* ON MY PLATE WITHOUT TAKING ON SOMEONE ELSE'S PROBLEMS.

YOU *SURE* ABOUT THIS?

HE'S SURE.

IT IS A WISE WARRIOR WHO KNOWS WHEN TO LEAVE THE FIELD.

MOON KNIGHT *RETIRES?*

WE HAVE NO *HANGOUT* NOW.

AND YOU HAVE NO BENEFACTOR.

YEAH. NO PAYCHECK.

SO YOU WILL *LEAVE* US?

NAW. I GUESS I GO -- WHAT DO *LAWYERS* CALL IT? PRO BONO.

"I KNOW SOMEBODY WHO'S GONNA BE HAPPY ABOUT THAT."

SNF SNF

FURY!

NATASHA, WHAT IN SAM HILL ARE YOU *DOING* HERE? YOU CAN'T JUST --

MY APOLOGIES, COLONEL FURY... DIRECTOR CARTER.

THERE *ARE* CHANNELS, AGENT ROMANOV.

YOU'LL *UNDERSTAND* MY ABRUPT ENTRANCE WHEN I'VE EXPLAINED.

AN ATTACK ON ME HAS UNCOVERED A CONSPIRACY AIMED AT *S.H.I.E.L.D.*

NATASHA..

NOT *NOW*, DAGGER.

I THINK THIS CONSPIRACY ORIGINATES *HERE*.

I COULDN'T TRUST ANY KIND OF COMMUNICATION *OTHER* THAN FACE TO FACE.

WHAT *FORM* DOES THIS CONSPIRACY TAKE?

AN *L.M.D.* THAT WAS A *DOUBLE* FOR COLONEL FURY.

IT VERY NEARLY *KILLED* DAGGER AND ME.

THIS DRIVE INSIDE THE MACHINE IS OF *S.H.I.E.L.D.* MANUFACTURE.

UH...

THE *L.M.D.* CAME FROM *HERE?*

I THINK THAT'S THE CASE, COLONEL.

AND WHO IS THIS *WITH* YOU? IS SHE *AUTHORIZED?*

I *VOUCH* FOR DAGGER. SHE'S HERE BECAUSE OF HER UNIQUE *ABILITIES.*

THE *L.M.D.s* ARE SOPHISTICATED DUPLICATES, ALMOST *IMPOSSIBLE* TO DETECT WITHOUT EXTENSIVE TESTS.

UM...

DAGGER IS ABLE TO DETECT HUMAN *SOULS.*

NO L.M.D. CAN HIDE FROM HER.

IS *ANYONE* IN THIS ROOM AN L.M.D., DAGGER?

WELL, ACTUALLY...

...THEY *ALL* ARE.

TO BE CONTINUED!

Shadowcat